GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1058
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2006
CHILDREN DROPOUT FROM SCHOOL
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dropout ratio of children is high in the frontier State of Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the reasons and details thereof as compared to previous year;

(c) whether the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) authorities have set an any ambitious target of bringing more than 50,000 children including 3,477 physically challenged back to schools through a special drive have been set; and

(d) if so, steps Government propose to take to achieve this ambitious goal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a)&(b): In the year 2003-04, the dropout rates in Meghalaya at the primary stage (Classes-I-V) and elementary stage (Classes I-VIII) were 53.4% and 71.1% respectively as against 56.5% and 71.7% in the respective stages during 2002-03. Several socio-economic factors are responsible for this improvement.

(c)&(d): Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Meghalaya has outlined a strategy for 2006-07 of bringing 59,142 out-of- school children into schools by conducting Back to School Camps. The State has identified 9306 children with special needs and has enrolled 5238 such children in schools. In addition, 168 severally disabled children are being provided home-based education.